

Listing of Claims:

30. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting a body lumen comprising the steps of :

a) providing a stent having an interior layer and an exterior layer, said interior layer having a securing means thereon;

b) placing said stent around the exterior of a body lumen; and,

c) expanding said lumen into contact with said securing means, thereby securing -the lumen to the securing means.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:

the stent covers less than the total circumference of the lumen.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:

the stent comprises a biologically inert material.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claim 32 wherein:

the stent further comprises a shape-memory material.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:

the stent comprises a biologically active material.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:

the stent comprises resorbable material.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:

the stent comprises a radioactive element for delivering radiation directly to the lumen.

37. (Currently Amended) A method as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:

the stent is porous.

38. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent is a single unified member.
39. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent comprises at least two members flexibly joined together.
40. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent is bifurcated.
41. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent is further secured by a barb.
42. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent is secured by a hook.
43. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent is secured by an adhesive.
44. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent comprises a braided material.
45. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the support is substantially composed of resorbable material.
46. (cancelled)
47. (cancelled)
48. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 wherein:
the stent is further secured by sutures.
49. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of:
~~the stent locking the stent~~ onto the lumen to prevent it from slipping.

50. (Currently Amended) A method of support as in claims 30 or 51 further comprising:
applying a reinforcing layer for strengthening the stent .

51. (New) A method of supporting a body lumen comprising the steps of :

a) providing a stent having an interior layer and an exterior layer, said interior layer
having a securing means thereon;

b) placing said stent around the exterior of a body lumen;

c) contacting the interior layer of said stent to said lumen, thereby securing the lumen to
the securing means.

52. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein said step of contacting the interior layer of said
stent to said lumen comprises ratcheting said stent.

53. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein said step of contacting the interior layer of said
stent to said lumen further comprises compressing said stent into said lumen.

54. (New) The method of Claim 30 wherein said step of expanding said lumen into contact with
said securing means further comprises dilating said lumen with a balloon device.